

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 04353 151845Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /107 W

----- 040337

R 151757Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8874

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 664

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 4353

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EEC, CH, COMECOM

SUBJECT: SOAMES' VISIT TO PRC

REFS: A) EC BRUSSELS 4121

B) PEKING 927

C) STATE 112146 (NOTAL)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 04353 151845Z

D) EC BRUSSELS 3925

1. SUMMARY: ON MAY 15, IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS RETURN TO BRUSSELS FROM PEKING AND TEHRAN, EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE DISCUSSED THE RESULTS OF HIS TRIP. (HIS COMMENTS ON HIS VISIT TO IRAN ARE REPORTED IN SEPTEL.) SOAMES' BRIEFING GENERALLY PARALLELS REPORTS CONTAINED IN REFS A AND B. IN ADDITION, SOAMES FOR THE FIRST TIME PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED THAT THE EC INTENDS TO NEGOTIATE EC-WIDE "ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS" INCLUDING ONE BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY (REPRESENTING ALL NINE MEMBER STATES) AND CHINA. SOAMES SAID HE HOPED HIS VISIT TO CHINA WOULD NOT HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND CEMA, OR ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE EC:

SOAMES SAID THAT THE CHINESE INTEND TO ACCREDIT AN AMBASSADOR TO THE EC "IN THE NEAR FUTURE." HE SAID THE PRC'S DECISION WAS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE A RESIDENT AMBASSADOR WOULD ENABLE THE CHINESE TO UNDERSTAND MORE FULLY THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EC. IN ADDITION, SOAMES SAID, THE CLOSER CONTACTS WOULD PERMIT THE CHINESE A FAR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EC EFFORTS IN LDC'S. SOAMES SAID HE HOPED THIS IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE REFLECTED IN FUTURE CHINESE ACTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THEY INTENDED TO NOMINATE A SEPARATE AMBASSADOR TO THE COMMUNITY OR WOULD SEEK DUAL ACCREDITATION FOR THE CURRENT PRC AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM, SOAMES RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS A MATTER FOR THE CHINESE TO DECIDE AND THAT IT MADE NO DIFFERENCE TO THE COMMUNITY. (A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE CHINESE EMBASSY HERE HAS TOLD US THEY ARE ALREADY SEEKING OFFICE SPACE FOR THE NEW CHINESE MISSION TO THE EC. FROM THIS, OUR SOURCE THINKS IT LIKELY THAT A SEPARATE AMBASSADOR WILL BE NOMINATED.)

3. TRADE TALKS:

SOAMES SAID THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE MINISTER FOR TRADE WERE "A NATURAL OUTFLOW OF THE MODEL BILATERAL AGREEMENT WHICH WE HAD EARLIER PRESENTED TO THE CHINESES." DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT ARE TO CONTINUE IN BRUSSELS AFTER THE ACCREDITATION OF AN AMBASSADOR. SOAMES SAID THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 EC BRU 04353 151845Z

WHILE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PRC COULD BE SIGNIFICANT, ANY INCREASE IN TRADE BETWEEN THE EC AND CHINA WOULD DEPEND ON BOTH THE CHINESE NEED FOR CAPITAL GOODS AND ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF EC SUPPLIERS. HE SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO KNOW IF CHINA WAS SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURAL TRADE.

4. WORLD POLITICAL SITUATION:

SOAMES SAID THAT A GREAT DEAL OF HIS TIME IN PEKING WAS

DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF THE WORLD POLITICAL SITUATION WITH CHINESE LEADERS. HE SAID CHINA, WHILE FOAVORING THE GROWTH OF THE COMMUNITY, "DOES NOT INTEND TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN THE EC AND THE US."

5. EC/CEMA RELATIONS:

IN RESPONSE TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS, SOAMES SAID THAT "IT WOULD BE SAD" IF EITHER CEMA OR THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE ALLOW HIS TRIP TO CHINA TO INFLUENCE THEIR REACTIONS TO THE EC PROPOSED MODEL BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

6. EC-WIDE "ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS":

AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, SOAMES SAID PUBLICLY WHAT HE HAD PRIVATELY TOLD AMBASSADOR GREENWALD (PARA 9, REF D), NAMELY THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATING "ECONOMIC COOPERATIOON AGREEMENTS" ON A COMMUNITY-WIDE BASIS. SOAMES TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE FIRST OF THESE AGREEMENTS WOULD BE THAT BETWEEN THE EC AND CANADA. FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION OF THIS "TEST CASE" SOAMES PROPOSED A SIMILAR AGREEMENT WIT CHINA. SOAMES ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW THE EC MEMBER STATES WOULD REACT TO THIS PROPOSAL. GREENWALD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC ACCREDITATION, AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ECBRU04353
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750171-1137
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750546/aaaabpgy.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 EC BRUSSELS 4121
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOAMES' VISIT TO PRC
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, CH, EEC, COMECOM, (SOAMES, CHRISTOPHER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006